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I got home just in time to go out to dine with E at the Regents Park Zoo, 100 yards or so away from our house. This was a night to be remembered. We met at 7:00 o'clock, had cocktails in the delightful bar, and then made a tour of the houses and cages. A trained monkey performance was put on for us. Also, we went into the hummingbird cage, where these beautiful little birds were free to fly around a fairly large enclosure. The colors of some of them are startlingly beautiful. The real fun, however, was a visit to the place where the lions, tigers, and large apes are confined. Guy, a low ground gorilla, about seven years old, weighing 400 pounds, was the most magnificent wild animal I have ever seen. He is gray, with a good deal of black on his extremities, and tiny ears, smaller than those of a human child. The impression he gives of power is terrifying. They think he will add several hundred pounds in weight as he grows older. Alongside, was a mountain gorilla, with long black hair, induced by residence in a colder climate, not nearly as formidable or attractive looking as the low ground specimen. Sultan, the famous lion, has a bad case of unsatisfied love. He lies day and night with his great face, framed in a black mane, pressed against the window separating him from his girl friend in an adjoining cage. He looks as mournful as if at a funeral. Their romance apparently is to be blessed in about one week, an event viewed by the professional keepers with a great deal of anticipation.

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Back in the administration building, we sat down to a gay and excellent a meal as could be wished for. One of its features was an excellent 1953 Mouton Rothschild. The guests were Diana Cooper, Kitty and Frank Giles, Lady Norwich, our dear friend Andre de Staercke (the Belgian Perm Rep and Doyen of NATO), the Harold Caccias, Lady Bridget Parsons, Sir Gerald and Lady Templer, Miss Owen, a great zoo expert, Freddie Ashton, the choreographer, Ian and Ann Fleming, Andre Gerard, and ourselves. Solly Zuckerman was in his usual inimitable form. I was much taken by his charming

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our host.